

REMARKS:

I. Introduction

In the Office Action mailed on December 31, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1 to 3, 7, 8, 10 to 12, 15 to 17. The present amendment cancels no claims, amends claim 1, and adds no new claims. Accordingly, claims 1 to 12, and 15 to 17 remain pending in this application.

II. Claim Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

(a) The Examiner rejected claims 1 to 3, 7, 8, 10 to 12, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson et al. (US 5,131,194) in view of Cross et al. (US 2,258,973) and further in view of Okawa et al. (5,055,031).

The present invention permits the glazing panel to be installed and removed while the window assembly remains installed in a motor vehicle or other structure. Thus, the glazing panel can be replaced without removing anything but the glazing panel itself (note that the seals or gaskets remain in the retaining frame) so that the glazing panel can be replaced quickly and inexpensively. The gasket is constructed so that the channel receiving the glazing panel and the lip partially forming the channel are each located entirely outside of the retainer frame so that the gasket can flex as required in order to accomplish this goal. In contrast, the gasket (13) of Anderson is prevented from flexing by the frame (120) which overlaps the gasket (13) at the majority of the channel (60, 61)) and the majority of the lip (55, 56) as clearly shown in FIG. 2. Also in contrast, the gasket (14) of Okawa et al. is prevented from flexing by the frame (11) which overlaps the gasket (14) at the majority of the channel (27) and the majority of the lip (16, 19) as clearly shown in FIG. 1.

Independent claim 1, and claims dependent therefrom, are allowable because they each include the limitations of "wherein said perimeter channel and said lip are each located entirely outside the retainer frame.." No prior art of record reasonably discloses or suggests the present invention as defined by amended claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

(b) The Examiner rejected dependent claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

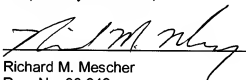
unpatentable over Anderson et al. (US 5,131,194) in view of Gasteuger (US 3,720,026).

Dependent claim 15 is allowable as depending from allowable independent claim 1 as discussed above and for novel and non-obvious matter contained therein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

III. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is found that the present amendment does not place the application in a condition for allowance, applicant's undersigned attorney requests that the examiner initiate a telephone interview to expedite prosecution of the application. If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 50-3915.

Respectfully submitted,



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